

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-29 are in the application. Claims 1, 10 and 20 have been amended.

In the Official Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-29 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Haber et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,320,609). In formulating the rejection, the Examiner asserted that the Haber et al. device includes “a cartridge (16), a plunger (152), a lead screw (158), a driver (140) with a keyway, channel and slot (see figure 3C) and a reset ring (176)”.

The Haber et al. device includes a dose adjusting screw 158 and a nut 176. As stated at col. 6, lines 13-18, “[n]ut 176 has external threads 178 which engage mating internal threads 180 formed at the distal end 182 of dose adjusting screw 158. Nut 176 is secured onto distal end 182 of dose adjusting screw 158 with sufficient force so that nut 176 and screw 158 rotate together as a unit.” Accordingly, there is no relative movement between the dose adjusting screw 158 and the nut 176 during use of the device.

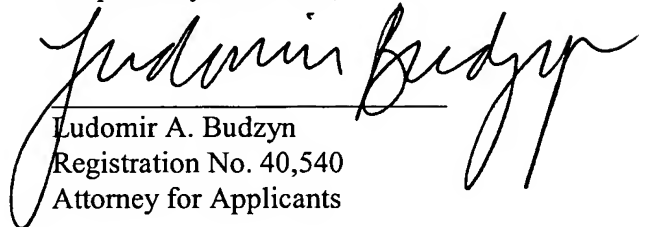
There are presently three independent claims in the subject application, namely claims 1, 10 and 20. Each of the independent claims includes a “lead screw”, a “driver”, and a “reset ring”, wherein the reset ring is “axially movable with respect to said driver and said lead screw when a dosage amount is set”. As asserted by the Examiner, the claimed reset ring allegedly corresponds to the nut 176 of Haber et al., whereas the claimed lead screw allegedly corresponds to the dose adjusting screw 158. In contrast

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to Haber et al., the claimed reset ring is axially movable with respect to the lead screw when setting a dosage amount. With the Haber et al. device, the nut 176 is not axially movable with respect to the dose adjusting screw 158, but, rather, is fixed thereto to rotate together during use. There is no disclosure or suggestion to fix the nut 176 to the dose adjusting screw 158 in any other manner. It is respectfully submitted that claims 1, 10 and 20, along with dependent claims 2-9, 11-19 and 21-29, respectively, are patentable over Haber et al.

Favorable action is earnestly solicited. If there are any questions or if additional information is required, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Applicants' attorney at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,


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